



## Program Overview

The Eileen Hoffman Hafer UMatter program located on the University of South Florida St. Petersburg campus. UMatter is an innovative inclusive postsecondary education (IPSE) program created to provide young people with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to experience higher education and campus life. Upon successful completion, students will obtain a Certificate of Completion from the UMatter Program and competitive employment. Students in UMatter express a strong desire to continue their education in an inclusive postsecondary setting, explore careers and engage in work-based learning opportunities, and live independently.

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Eileen Hoffman Hafer  
**UMatter**  
PROGRAM

 **UNIVERSITY of**  
**SOUTH FLORIDA**  
College of Education

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**EILEEN HOFFMAN HAFER**  
**UMATTER**  
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## Program Goals and Benefits

The program aims to help students increase their skills in:

1

Academic Access and Enrichment – auditing college courses

2

Career Development and Employment – internships and competitive employment

3

Campus and Community Engagement – student organizations and volunteering

4

Independent Living – living on campus, following schedules, managing appointments and self-care, financial literacy, and effective communication

5

Self-Determination – becoming a responsible member of their community



## Admissions Criteria

Applicants who meet the criteria below will be considered for the U Matter Program:

- A documented intellectual disability that impacts progression in a standard curriculum in pursuit of a postsecondary degree or certificate
- Exited the K-12 system
- At least 18 years old
- Has a desire to audit college courses
- Personal goals of competitive employment and community participation
- Capable of mobility on adult campuses, including transportation to and from campus
- Displays a level of social maturity conducive to an adult environment (i.e. employment and educational settings)
- Independently maintains self-care and personal hygiene
- Collaborative partnership between the U Matter program and parental/guardian/family

- Has a reliable means of communication (i.e. smart phone with texting and navigation capability)
- Clear discipline/incident history
- Strong attendance record
- Willingness to follow university and program's code of conduct
- Willingness to work with an academic mentor/tutor and peer mentor(s)
- Willingness to participate in volunteer opportunities in the community



For detailed admissions criteria, please visit the U Matter website at [www.usf.edu/umatter](http://www.usf.edu/umatter).

